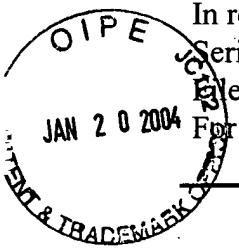


**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**



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In re Application of:	Martin et al.	Group Art Unit:	3618
Serial No.:	09/748,970	Examiner:	Vanaman, F.
Filed:	12/27/2000	Attorney Docket:	RM393a
For:	Backwards Release Ski Binding		

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Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, DC 20231

**APPLICANT'S SUBMISSION UNDER 37 CFR 1.114  
IN SUPPORT OF REQUEST FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION**

Dear Sir:

In response to your Office Action mailed November 18, 2003 and your Advisory Action mailed February 19, 2003, Applicant requests a second continued examination pursuant to 35 U.S.C. 132(b) and 37 CFR 1.114.

As set forth in 37 CFR 1.114(a), an applicant may obtain continued examination of an application by filing a submission and the requisite fee prior to the earliest of: A) payment of the issue fee; B) abandonment of the application; and C) the filing of a notice of appeal to the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit or the commencement of a civil action. As none of the above matters have yet occurred, Applicant's Request for Continued Examination (RCE) is timely and proper. Further, Applicant's RCE is proper because prosecution in the subject utility application is closed, as the last Office Action of November 29, 2002 is a final action. Also please find the attached RCE fee under 37 CFR 1.17(e).

Please amend the application as follows:

**RECEIVED**  
JAN 22 2004  
**GROUP 3600**